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SÍN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Engel	of:)		
))	Art Unit: 173	4
Serial No.: 10/79	5,853)		
Filed: March 8, 2	2004)) 1)	Examiner: N/	Ά
Transmiss	or Manufacture Of An Optical ion Element With Several Compressible Filling Elements	,	-	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the filing of the application, but, to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, prior to the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

A copy of the listed document is attached.

As Well As Optical Transmission Element

Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claims in the application and applicant determines that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Engel 10/795,853 IDS Page 2

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-2167.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael E. Carroll, Jr.

Patent Attorney

Registration No. 46,602

P.O. Box 489

Hickory, N. C. 28603

Telephone: 828/901-6725

Date: October 6, 2004

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office 3 007 1 2 2004						iber:			
Patent and Trademark Office CT 1 2 2004 DE 2003,0162 10/795,853 LIST OF RELATED DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) Applicant: Engel									
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<u></u>					Applicant: E	ngel 			
					Filing Date: N	March 8, 2004		Group: 1734	
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Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	N	ame	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate	
	AA	6,253,012B1	6/26/01	Keller et al.		385	109	2/10/99	
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